

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have answered the patriotic call to national service through their participation in the Missouri Air National Guard during perilous times for our state and country; and

Whereas, Master Sergeant Latitia Whitaker has attained considerable distinction as an Air Traffic Controller with the Missouri Air National Guard at Rosecrans Field in Saint Joseph; and

Whereas, while on duty at Kirkuk Air Base in northern Iraq, Master Sergeant Whitaker supervised flight operations in the war zone, an endeavor for which she earned a Bronze Star for meritorious achievement while engaged in action against an opposing foreign force; and

Whereas, Master Sergeant Whitaker developed launch procedures that “resulted in critical air cover for a United States Army raid on an enemy camp that led to the capture of a member of the Central Command’s most wanted list”; and

Whereas, Master Sergeant Whitaker proved to be instrumental in authoring airfield operating procedures that were used in the medical evacuation of more than eighty-six critically wounded soldiers and airmen; and

Whereas, Master Sergeant Whitaker also was involved in utilizing tactical radios and night-vision goggles to direct covert flight operations for several firefights in the vicinity of the Kirkuk Air Base; and

Whereas, a 1989 graduate of South Harrison High School, Master Sergeant Whitaker is the first woman member of the Missouri Air National Guard to receive the Bronze Star for service in the Iraq conflict; and

Whereas, Master Sergeant Whitaker received her Bronze Star during a ceremony which was conducted by the 139th Airlift Wing of the Missouri Air National Guard on Saturday, May 1, 2004; and

Whereas, Mary Whitaker is the beloved wife of Rick, the loving mother of ten-year-old Kelsey and twenty-one-month-old Kenadi, and the daughter of Cindy Coots of Bethany and Robert Flint of Sedalia;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to salute Master Sergeant Letitia Whitaker and to convey to her this legislative body’s heartiest congratulations upon receiving a Bronze Star for service in Iraq; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Master Sergeant Letitia Whitaker of Gower, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Jim Whorton
District No. 3

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted _____, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker